

P-7.1 Explain the particulate nature of light as evidenced in the photoelectric effect.

Revised Taxonomy Levels 2.7 B Explain conceptual knowledge
This concept was not addressed in physical science

It is essential for students to

- ❖ Understand the characteristics of the electromagnetic spectrum
- ❖ Understand the photoelectric effect as “The emission of electrons by a substance when illuminated by electromagnetic radiation is known as the photoelectric effect.”
 - Understand the laws of photo emission and how they describe the nature of electromagnetic radiation
 - The rate of emission of photoelectrons is directly proportional to the intensity of the incident light
 - The kinetic energy of photoelectrons is independent of the intensity of the incident light
- ❖ Understand the quantum theory and the equation $E = hf$ where f is the frequency in hertz, h is Plank’s constant, and E is energy expressed in joules

Assessment

The verb explain means that the major focus of assessment should be for students to “construct a cause and effect model”. In this case, assessments will ensure that students can model the nature of light based on classic experiments. Because the indicator is written as conceptual knowledge, assessments should require that students understand the “interrelationships among the basic elements within a larger structure that enable them to function together.” In this case, assessments must show that students can construct a cause and effect statement relating how the laws of photoemission define the particle nature of light